

REMARKS

With the present Amendment, claims 1-12, 16-17, and 23-24 have been cancelled. Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 16 and 17 and thus represents former claim 17 written in independent form. Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 13 instead of claim 16. Claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 23 and 24. Claim 25 has been amended to depend from claim 20.

In the Office Action, claims 17, 19, 24, and 26 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim but would have been allowable if written in independent form.

With the present amendment, claim 13 represents claim 17 written in independent form. Since claim 17 was said to be allowable, amended claim 13 and claims 14-15 and 18-19, which depend therefrom, are in form for allowance.

Claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 23 and 24. This amendment places the patentable limitations of claim 24 in claim 20. As such, claim 20 and claims 21, 25 and 26, which depend therefrom, are in form for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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